

POLITICS IN SHAKE-UP

Economy Not the Only Reason for Department Paring.

BUILDING A "TAFT PARTY"

Reductions in Force Said to Be for a Double Purpose.

CABINET MEMBERS AS LEADERS

Expected the Reorganization of Their Departments Will Have Its Effect on Future Party Events.

That economy is one of the reasons, but by no means the only reason, for the proposed reduction of the working forces of the various executive departments is the opinion of those in close touch with the Taft administration. Politics is playing a considerable part in the coming shake-up. Long ago President Taft declared for economy. He informed his cabinet officers at one of the first cabinet meetings held after the inauguration that he wanted the departments put on a business basis and run more economically than in the past.

"Reduce your force to a working basis. Throw out all the dead wood. Keep the competent. Lose nothing in efficiency, but have efficiency at the least possible cost. In preparing your estimates make them as small as possible," was, in effect, what the President told his cabinet. He also outlined to them a general policy for transfer of certain work with a view to tightening up the departmental machinery. The law divisions of the departments were the ones he was most anxious to have overhauled.

The members of the cabinet immediately took up the task set for them by the President. The most enthusiastic members of the Taft official household were Secretary Nagel of the Department of Commerce and Labor and Secretary Ballinger of the Department of the Interior. Both of these men are, by the way, anti-Roosevelt in their general tendencies. Therefore, when they found right at their hands certain monuments to the genius of James Russell Garfield in the shape of pet bureaus under the Department of Commerce and Labor and the Department of the Interior, they shed no tears as they prepared for the work of demolition.

Strong on Theories.

The pet bureau under the Roosevelt administration was the bureau of corporations of the Department of Commerce and Labor. From being the head of that bureau, which he built up, Mr. Garfield became Secretary of the Interior. In most ways Garfield had been a gathering around him were theorists. They worked up a lot of good information and annoyed and alarmed the trusts and corporations to an amazing degree. They never knew when to let go. Having gathered a mass of evidence, they would turn it inside out, examine the law and the facts, and then, in relation to evolution, the theory of transmutation of the soul, socialism, Bryanism and all the other theories of the day, they got through with a digest of the evidence they had collected and made a report on it the results looked like the Reynolds report on the case of Columbia, pretty, but not practical.

The bureau of corporations, under Mr. Garfield, frequently had to suffer to twelve, but never struck the hour. President Taft thinks it should be part of the Department of Justice and has named Attorney General Clegg to formulate a general plan to get it there. He wants the bureau of corporations to get facts and turn them over. Wickham told Nagel to look the bureau of corporations over. So the bureau of corporations is being reduced. Along with it other bureaus of the Department of Commerce and Labor are being reduced. About 200 clerks will be caught in the dragnet.

In the Interior Department.

In the Department of the Interior there was a general shakeup some time ago in the law division. The law division was there were few dismissals, comparatively speaking, but a general tightening up was effected and the seekers after evidence, the various land agents, for instance, were told to go more slowly and to stop sending in such a mass of evidence that made the department's legal representatives look like idiots when they tried to present it in court.

When Mr. Ballinger went after the Indian office. He figured that matters needed tightening up a bit. One of those first ran a row of one change in method was the case of the Indian agent of Indian schools. Under the Roosevelt administration Miss Reel spent half her time in the field and half in Washington. Hereafter she will spend practically all of her time in the field, a hint to that effect having been given her some time ago by the former chief.

The other departments have been given more slowly. There is nothing to indicate that anything dramatic will be done in the Post Office Department. Postmaster General Hitchcock is well trained in government methods and knows just what he wants to do. He and his former chief, Mr. Cortelyou, long ago brought the Post Office Department down to a pretty low running figure. Whether there is room for change in the Post Office is not known. Secretary MacVeagh is taking things as they come. He will probably make a few reductions and content himself with refraining from raising any salaries. What dismissals he makes will be with a view of consolidation.

Women Not Left Stranded.

Reports to the effect that a dozen or more women employees of the forest service had been dismissed and left stranded in the west was emphatically denied by officials of that branch of the government this morning. The facts in that case, as stated by these officials, are as follows:

Some time ago a number of clerks employed in Washington were transferred to positions under the six western districts, which are located at San Francisco, Portland, Missoula, Mont.; Albuquerque, N. M.; Ogden, Utah; and Denver. It was later decided to reduce the clerical forces employed in these districts offices on routine work, because the work had disappeared. Consequently some of the clerks were transferred to the supervisors' offices and others were brought back to Washington and furloughed.

Thirty-five clerks were affected by this change. Half of them got employment under the supervisors. The rest were brought back to Washington at government expense. Some of them obtained employment elsewhere.

U. S. TO BOND CLERKS

Lawmakers Dissatisfied With Trebly Increased Rates.

COMMITTEE HAS HEARING

Plea of Justification Fails in Its Appeal to Congress.

GOVERNMENT TO DO BUSINESS

Bill to Be Introduced Providing Fund to Be Contributed to by Trusted Employees.

Uncle Sam is going into the bonding and surety business. At least that is the way it looks just now as a result of the hearing today before the ex-officio appropriations committee, at which twelve of eighteen or twenty bonding concerns doing business in the United States were represented.

Ever since practically all the bonding companies doing business in the United States got together and trebled their rates to government employees, beginning with January 1, 1909, the impression has prevailed around the appropriation committee's headquarters that they are first-class pirates. The surety people went up on the bill today in an effort to dispel this idea.

Government to Go Into Business.

Present indications are that they didn't do it. The net result may be that the government will establish a reserve, made up of deductions from the salaries of officials holding positions of financial trust, from which will be paid losses by embezzlement, errors of judgment and the like. It would not only save the government a bunch of trouble in making collections, it is argued, but would save money to the bonded officials. There would be no overhead charges and no big commissions for "getting the business."

The representatives of the bonding companies who appeared today before Representatives Tawney of Minnesota, Smith of Iowa, Livingston of Georgia, Burson of Texas and Keller of Ohio didn't look like pirates—and they denied the charge, too.

They didn't deny that they had put their heads together and boosted the rates, but they insisted it was necessary.

Bartlett Makes Plea.

J. Kemp Bartlett of Baltimore, representing four or five of the concerns, pointed out that the bonding and surety business in this country is yet in its infancy, few of the companies having been in existence for more than a decade, and none of them over twenty-five years old. Consequently, he argued, these companies were just getting down to business, and were just learning what rate was fair and reasonable. There had been price cutting and ruinous competition, he said, and if it continued, would have put most of the concerns out of business. So, for their own safety, they had come together in close harmony and were prepared to write a few sureties at three times the old rates. That was all.

Half to Get Business.

Questions from Mr. Tawney drew forth the admission that, of every premium received on a bond, 50 per cent went to "getting the business."

The agent got 25 per cent and 25 per cent more could be charged to office rent and expenses of various kinds. According to Mr. Bartlett's statement, the bonding business isn't so wonderfully attractive as an investment. Thirty-five millions of money are tied up in it in the United States, and yet several of the bonding concerns failed to pay dividends last year. The industry is not as profitable as a direct result of premium earnings, but from the earnings of invested reserve.

Mr. Bartlett mentioned a dozen or more embezzlements of government disbursing officers, army and navy paymasters and the like, which had been covered by bonds. Government employees wasn't all milk and honey. He also cited the Indian agent, class as illustrative of his claim that the companies weren't yet old enough to know just what sort of a price to charge for the various kinds of risk.

Two Sides of Medal.

In the last ten years, he said, his company, a Baltimore concern, had received about \$16,000 from premiums on the bonds of Indian agents, and had expended as a result of losses something less than \$500. This, he admitted, was grand, indeed. But in the last thirty days his company had been hit to the tune of \$14,000 on an Indian agent's bond which had been written six years ago and which expired three years ago, although the agent himself hadn't wrongfully taken a cent. He had merely violated the letter of the law or regulation or treaty, or whatever it was that prohibited an Indian agent to pay government money to "bad Indians." The agent didn't profit, but the bad Indians did. Although the bonding company had fought the case, the courts had allowed the \$14,000.

Bill to Be Introduced.

The members of the appropriations committee present at the hearing didn't seem violently impressed with the showing made by the representatives. The result probably will be that at the next regular session of Congress, beginning in December, Chairman Tawney of the appropriations committee will bring in a bill creating a government bonding reserve. Then the companies that have trebled their rates can run away and play, so far as government business is concerned. The government employees, however, will have to go on with their own officials and employees, and with great success, too. There seems, Mr. Tawney and other believe, to be no good reason why the United States government should not follow suit.

Incidentally, there was one bonding man on hand today. Tomkins by name, who is not in the combine. He represents the United States Fidelity of New York.

Somebody tried to get him to agree to the rate-trebbling arrangement. He would not hear of it. He insisted he was satisfied.

As a result he has been sitting up nights doing business ever since the increased rate went into effect. He sat around today among the representatives of the combination companies looking as sleek and as satisfied as the cat that got the cream.

Missouri River Rising.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., June 29.—The Missouri river has risen three inches within the last twenty-four hours and is two feet above danger line. Crops are being greatly damaged and farmers in the bottoms are in a state of panic.



SOLILOQUY OF THE SUMMER RESORT OWNER.

SHOT DOWN DOING HIS DUTY

ITALIAN HELD FOR SHOOTING OFFICER IN PLAIN CLOTHES

Mystery Surrounds Gun Play in New York Early Today—Call for Reserves.

Special Correspondence of The Star.
NEW YORK, June 29.—While holding up his gold shield to show an Italian from whom he demanded admission to an Italian boarding house that he came in the name of the law, Detective Joseph Becker, attached to Parkville street station, Brooklyn, was shot down at 2:15 o'clock this morning.

Becker was out on assignment to investigate a report of a shooting at 1553 10th street, the address in front of which he was wounded.

With him was Detective William Meyers, and to the police system of sending plain-clothes men in pairs, it is probably due the capture of the man suspected of using the gun.

Meyers turned in a call for the reserves and then guarded the entrance to prevent any one from leaving the place.

Twelve Men Arrested.
When help from the station house arrived the place was surrounded and twelve men, found inside, were arrested. Later, after being examined before Police Capt. Farr at the station house, all but one of the Italians were released. The police believe that the man detained is the one they want. He is described as Austine Dominick, thirty-five years old, and at present he is merely held on suspicion for further investigation.

Detective Becker's jaw was shattered by the shot and he is now at the Norwegian Hospital in a serious condition.

Suspect a Ruse Was Used.

Many circumstances about the shooting still remain to be explained. The police believe that either the detectives were lured there on a ruse or else some crime preceded their arrival.

The first call for an ambulance came earlier in the night from the house from which the detective was shot, and when Mr. Byrne of the Norwegian Hospital responded he was informed that he was not wanted and that no one needed a doctor.

Some hours later rumors of serious trouble at the house reached the Parkville station, and the two plain-clothes men were sent out to investigate.

UNWRITTEN LAW IN CHICAGO.

Italian Justified for Killing Man Who Injured Sister.

CHICAGO, June 29.—The "unwritten law" was sustained today by a jury in Judge Kersten's court, which freed Michael Pacellano, charged with the murder of Frank Sereno, as a result, it is alleged, of the latter's betrayal of Pacellano's sister.

The defendant's sister, Mrs. Josephine Sereno, was a bride of a week when it is charged, Sereno persuaded her to leave her husband. According to Pacellano, Sereno then went to New York and lived in a most questionable surroundings.

The brother followed and brought both back to Chicago, Sereno having promised it was said, to marry Mrs. Sereno after a divorce had been secured.

When the brother was told that Sereno was married, he was angry, and he is charged, Sereno declared he would have no more to do with the girl. The shooting followed.

In his address to the jury yesterday, Attorney Ebbstein confined his remarks almost entirely to an exposition of the "unwritten law." It is said that this is the first time this plea has proved successful in Chicago.

Reyes' Stay in London Brief.

LONDON, June 29.—Rafael Reyes, the President of Colombia, who arrived in London yesterday, will make but a brief stay here. He is going to Paris to visit relatives, and after a tour of the continent will return to Colombia and resume the presidency.

Bombs Thrown in Theaters.

BARCELONA, June 29.—Bombs were exploded at midnight last night in two of the Barcelona theaters. One of the playhouses fortunately was empty, but the other was crowded, and the audience was thrown into a panic. One man was fatally wounded.

VENEZUELAN SUE FOR LIBEL

IMATACA MINE CLAIMANTS ACQUSE ORINOCO COMPANY.

Papers Showing Title to Property Is Invalid Cause of Criminal Action by Damaged Parties.

CARACAS, Venezuela, June 29.—The case of the Orinoco corporation and the Venezuelan government, which, according to the arbitration protocol of last February, is to be settled directly between the parties concerned, has entered upon sensational developments.

After a newspaper campaign of weeks on the part of rival claimants to block approval of the American protocol, Nicomedes Zuolaga and Pedro Ustari, claimants to the Imataca iron mine in opposition to the corporation, have brought suit for criminal libel against Rudolph Dolge, representative here of the corporation, charging him with having purposely retained certain documents signed by George Turnbull until Turnbull was out of the country, and then giving them publicity.

Turnbull left Caracas June 14. These papers are said to be exceedingly damaging to the corporation, and discussed the result of accident, unless the examiner is quite unusually skillful hand, means rating in Greek. A man's name is mentioned. Unfortunately, a large number of the strongest men, both in England and the United States, have decided that this game takes more time than it is worth.

"Personally I believe that this change of mind was in many respects a misfortune. It is in trying to get more practical results in the way of knowledge or culture a great many American college boys have lost the training which the Greeks would have given them and gained nothing of equal value in its place. But colleges cannot teach a thing to a public which does not want to study it, and we must recognize the fact that an increasing part of the American public does not care to have its sons give the time necessary for the effective use of the Greek language as a means of competition and discipline. This makes academic problems more difficult."

Among the recent gifts of special importance not previously announced are those from Mrs. Morris K. Jesup, the endowment of a professorship in silviculture in memory of her husband, and \$50,000 from an anonymous friend of the art school in memory of the late Richard S. Fellows of the class of 1832.

Gift of Cornelius Vanderbilt.
It was announced that Cornelius Vanderbilt, class of '35, had made a gift of \$10,000 as the nucleus of a fund as a memorial to the services of Dean Henry P. Wright, who retires from the academic department with this commencement.

Two memorial tablets, placed in the vestibule of Memorial Hall, were unveiled today. One bears this inscription:

"In Loving Memory of
Hiram Bingham,
1857 Missionary to Micronesia, 1908 Navigator, Civilizer, Bible Translator; and
Charles Harding,
1856 Missionary to India, 1890 Devoted and Beloved."
The other tablet is in memory of Arthur Sitgreaves Mann, professor in St. John's University, Shanghai. Born in New York city August 18, 1878. Drowned in Kuling, China, July 24, 1907. The tablet is erected by the class of 1890 on this its centennial reunion.

Many Plague Deaths in Amoy.
AMOI, June 29.—According to official reports there have been 17 deaths from the bubonic plague in Amoy in the fortnight ended yesterday. Native reports show improved health conditions in the larger interior towns, but the populations of some villages have been decimated during the month.

Salton Sea to Disappear in 1925.
LOS ANGELES, June 29.—According to a report issued by the United States geological survey, the great Salton sea will completely disappear through evaporation by 1925. The sea, which was formed a few years ago by overflow from the Colorado river into a depression in the Imperial valley, is about forty miles in length, and is 275 feet below sea level and the water in places is nearly 100 feet deep.

Steers Lucky Craft Part of the Fifty-One-Mile Contest.
KIEL, June 29.—Emperor William's Meteor, steered part of the time by his majesty himself, won the fifty-one-mile race to Eckernforde today, covering the distance in 5 hours and 10 minutes. Germania was second, in 5 hours and 30 minutes, and Iduna, owned by the empress, was third.

The racers were accompanied by a large fleet of yachts, which included Allison Armour's Utowana, with Ambassador Hill among the guests on board.

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MAYOR ENDS STRIKE

Threat to Seize Car Lines Causes Settlement.

VICTORY FOR EMPLOYES

Every Point Conceded by the Company But One.

REJOICING BY THE CITIZENS

Every Division of the Street Railways in Operation and Schedules Being Maintained.

Terms of Agreement.

The number of "short runs" to be reduced 50 per cent.
The men withdrew their objections to emergency runs.
Sunday runs not to be longer than the week-day schedules.
Motorman Ashford, discharged on charges of drinking while in uniform, to be reinstated pending arbitration.
Conductor Halboth, suspended on charges of refusal to help remove an obstruction to traffic, to be paid in full for the time of his suspension.
Conductor McGibson, who lost seniority, to be restored.

The ending of Greater Pittsburgh's first complete street car strike was as sudden as the beginning.

While the trouble was adjusted by Mayor William A. Magee, with a compromise agreement favorable to the men, concessions were granted by the union and company.

Excepting one point, which will be arbitrated later, every difference was settled definitely at the conference held in the mayor's office last night.

Victory for the Men.

The settlement is apparently a complete victory for the men. Every point is conceded by the company save that of drinking, when in uniform, even though off duty. The men held that a man had the right to drink if he saw fit after his day's work was done, but this was denied by the company, and a motorman caught drinking was discharged. The wrecked car will be returned to arbitration. The company agrees to reimburse a conductor who was laid off for six days for not off the track so as to make time. With the expectation of walking to town or riding in a wagon, thousands of Pittsburghers were early today. Owing to lateness of the hour last night it was not generally known that the strike had been ended. The men, however, were manifested by all when it was learned the trouble had been adjusted. Many of those who arose early returned to their homes, and the inconveniences experienced Sunday and yesterday until their regular time to go down town.

Mayor's Threat Causes Settlement.
The mayor, who had not slept since Friday night, submitted last night a proposition to both sides, which he was instructed to reduce to writing, after which it was considered and adopted. The mayor had been swinging the club all day. He announced the discovery of an old law under which he could seize the street car lines in the name of the city and operate them for the common good of the public. His threat that he would appeal to this law caused both sides to consult the best legal counsel available, and they listened to reason. It is conceded that the mayor's threat caused the settlement.

Two deaths have thus far been attributed to the strike.

DELAY IN SUGAR CASES.
Postponement Likely to Determine Question of Procedure.

That the government prosecution of the American Sugar Refining Company has not been abandoned was the opinion expressed by the Department of Justice officials today in the absence from the department of Attorney General Wickersham, who was engaged at an early conference at the White House in the pure food whiskey cases and later attended the cabinet meeting. The officials pointed out that in view of the eminence of counsel representing the American Sugar Refining Company, and the fact that the prosecution of the company is barred by the statute of limitations, it is quite possible that the Attorney General has consented to the temporary postponement of further proceedings until that question can be thoroughly examined.

The statement that United States Attorney Wise will abandon the sugar case proceedings before the grand jury and leave immediately for Paris to take testimony in the libel cases growing out of the transfer of the Panama canal property is questioned by the officials.

Death of Charley Cushman.
MILWAUKEE, June 29.—Charley Cushman, aged fifty-two years, well known in base ball circles as manager of different clubs, died today following an illness which is said to have resulted from an accident. Mr. Cushman had managed baseball teams in Rochester, N. Y., Toronto, Ont., and Milwaukee. Prior to that he was a prominent pitcher.

Overcome by Heat Today.
While trimming a tree shortly before 12 o'clock today, E. M. Emmett, twenty-six years of age, of 745 5th street northwest, suffered a heat prostration and fell to the ground, sustaining injuries to the head and spine, which were removed to the Emergency Hospital.

William J. Weir, fifty-five years of age, of 1033 13th street, was overcome by the heat while at 11th and R streets and was removed to the Emergency Hospital.

Youngsters Are Happy.
Fully one hundred grimy, perspiring boys visited the bathing beach today, with joyful anticipation beaming from their faces, watched the workmen putting the finishing touches on the beach and its bath houses and other accommodations. "It loves de bath but, oh, you bathing beach!" sang out one youngster as Commissioner West and Dr. Hudson made an inspection of the place.

The lads contented themselves with looking on or occasionally doing a buck and wing dance in the sand and singing or including in repartee. They were all jubilant, because they know they can swim to their heart's content Thursday without hindrance.

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